

REMARKS

The Office Action dated October 6, 2006 has been received and carefully considered. Claims 1-5, 7-13, and 15-21 were pending in the application. Claims 1, 9, and 21 have been amended. Claims 7 and 15 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 17-21 have been withdrawn without prejudice or disclaimer. No new matter has been added by the above amendments to the claims. Applicants believe that the application is in condition for allowance and notice thereof is respectfully requested.

Claims Have Been Amended to Include Elements The Office Action Deems Allowable

Applicant gratefully acknowledges that the Office Action has allowed claim 22.

Applicant also notes that the Office Action found claims 7 and 15 were objected to as “being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.” Office Action, page 6.

Applicant has amended independent claim 1 to include all of the limitations of objected claim 7. Applicant asserts that independent claim 1 now includes all of the limitations of claim 7, and so is in allowable form according to the Office Action. Claim 7 has been cancelled.

Applicant has also amended independent claim 9 to include all of the limitations of claim 15. Applicant asserts that independent claim 9 now includes all of the limitations of claim 15, and so is in allowable form according to the Office Action. Claim 15 has been cancelled.

CONCLUSION


An indication of allowance of all claims is earnestly solicited. Early notification of a favorable consideration is respectfully requested. It is believed only a fee in the amount of \$120.00 for a one month extension of time is required with this response. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required now or hereafter, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-0206.

Respectfully submitted,

HUNTON & WILLIAMS LLP

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By:



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